

GCSE

Religious Studies (World Religions)

Hinduism 2

Specimen Paper

B576

Time: 1 hour

Candidates answer on the question paper.

Additional materials: none

Candidate
Forename

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Candidate
Surname

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Centre Number

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Candidate
Number

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INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

- Write your name in capital letters, your Centre Number and Candidate Number in the boxes above.
- Use black ink only.
- Read each question carefully and make sure you know what you have to do before starting your answer.
- Answer any **TWO** questions; you must answer all parts (a-c) of the two questions that you choose.
- Do not write in the bar codes.
- Do not write outside the box bordering each page.
- Write your answer to each question in the space provided.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

- The number of marks for each question is given in brackets [] at the end of each question or part question.
- The total number of marks for this paper is **48**.
- Quality of written communication is assessed throughout the paper
- Should you need more space to write your answers there is an extra page at the end of the paper.
- If you need to use this extra page you must number your answers clearly.

This document consists of **8** printed pages.

Answer **TWO** questions (a, b and c parts should be answered for **each** question).

- 1 (a) Describe Hindu beliefs about varnashramadharma and how following it might affect the life of a Hindu.

[6]

- (b)** Explain how a Hindu wedding ceremony symbolises Hindu beliefs about marriage.

[6]

(c) 'Varnashramadharma cannot be followed in the modern world.'

Discuss this statement. You should include different, supported points of view and a personal viewpoint. You must refer to Hinduism in your answer

SPECIMEN

[12]

[12]

Total [24]

[Turn over

2 (a) Describe Hindu beliefs about life after death and how they might affect the life of a Hindu.

[6]

(b) Explain how a Hindu funeral might comfort the friends and family of the person who has died.

[6]

(c) 'A good reincarnation is the most important aim in life.'

Discuss this statement. You should include different, supported points of view and a personal viewpoint. You must refer to Hinduism in your answer

SPECIMEN

[12]

Total [24]

[Turn over

[illegible][illegible][illegible][illegible]

Discuss this statement. You should include different, supported points of view and a personal viewpoint. You must refer to Hinduism in your answer

[12]

Total [24]

Paper Total: [48]

Extra Answer Space

Clearly label which question you are answering.

SPECIMEN

The maximum mark for this paper is **48**.

SPECIMEN

Question Number	Answer	Max Mark
1(a)	<p>Describe Hindu beliefs about varnashramadharma and how following it might affect the life of a Hindu.</p> <p>Candidates may respond with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A description of the main features of dharma as it applies to ashrama and varna; • A discussion of the extent to which the ashramas or varnas were ever followed as described in the Vedas; • How the expectations of Hindus in each stage or varna might affect their lives in terms of marriage, food, profession, socioeconomic status, sexual activity and so on; • Some mention of the extent to which varnashramadharma does or does not impact on the life of Hindu women. 	[6]
1(b)	<p>Explain how a Hindu wedding ceremony symbolises Hindu beliefs about marriage.</p> <p>Candidates may respond with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Correct information taken from any Hindu tradition; • A description of the preparations for marriage; • The main features of a typical wedding such as the propitiation of Ganesh, the havan kund, the seven steps, the wife being shown the pole star and placing her foot on a stone and so far; • An explanation of the significance of these points to Hindus and how they relate to the dharmic expectations of men and women within a family. 	[6]
1(c)	<p>‘Varnashramadharma cannot be followed in the modern world.’</p> <p>Discuss this statement. You should include different, supported points of view and a personal viewpoint. You must refer to Hinduism in your answer</p> <p>Candidates may respond with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A discussion of the impracticality of leaving home to live with a guru or of renouncing family commitments to become a renunciate; • Whether it is still practical to live as a renunciate in the modern world particularly for Hindus outside India; • The perceived social and economic injustices of the varna system and a discussion of whether it is outdated; • The observation that in fact some Hindus do follow the system in the modern world; • A discussion of whether or not varnashramadharma has ever been followed in its entirety. 	[12]
Question Total		[24]

Question Number	Answer	Max Mark
2(a)	<p>Describe Hindu beliefs about life after death and how they might affect the life of a Hindu.</p> <p>Candidates may respond with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A description of the ideas of reincarnation, samsara, karma and moksha; • The relationship between karma and dharma; • The ways in which these beliefs might affect the life of a Hindu, for example by trying to follow their dharma at all times. 	[6]
2(b)	<p>Explain how a Hindu funeral and might comfort the friends and family of the person who has died.</p> <p>Candidates may respond with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Descriptions of funerals taken from any Hindu tradition; • An account of the main features of a typical funeral including the significance of the River Ganges, the role of the eldest son, the main prayers and rituals during and following after a funeral; • A discussion of the ways in which funerals may be different outside India and the impact this might have; • The ways in which the funeral displays Hindu beliefs about life after death which mourners would find comforting. 	[6]
2(c)	<p>‘A good reincarnation is the most important aim in life.’</p> <p>Discuss this statement. You should include different, supported points of view and a personal viewpoint. You must refer to Hinduism in your answer</p> <p>Candidates may respond with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion about the comparative merits of moksha and reincarnation as life goals within Hinduism; • The status of moksha as one of the “life goals” of Hinduism; • The fact that following dharma leads to karma and a good reincarnation shows the importance of the idea of reincarnation; • The question of whether or not moksha is a realistic goal for the majority of Hindus; • A discussion of whether life should be lived and enjoyed for its own sake without reference to any possible future life. 	[12]
Question Total		[24]
3(a)	<p>Describe how sacred writings might be used by Hindus.</p> <p>Candidates may respond with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some texts may be read as part of private or public worship; • Some texts may form the basis of ritual actions and festival celebrations; 	[6]

Question Number	Answer	Max Mark
3(a) Cont'd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Texts may be recited in public; • Texts may form the basis of meditation; • Texts may be studied to increase knowledge and understanding of the faith. 	
3(b)	<p>Explain how the contents of the Ramayana might affect the life of a Hindu.</p> <p>Candidates may respond with explanations of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The story shows the triumph of good over evil which encourages Hindus towards good behaviour and moral conduct; • The story emphasises devotion and dharma or duty which supports the Hindu in performing the dharma associated with their life; • The marriage of Rama and Sita is considered to be the perfect example to be followed by Hindus. 	[6]
3(c)	<p>‘Telling a story is the best way in which to get a religious or moral truth across to people.’</p> <p>Discuss this statement. You should include different, supported points of view and a personal viewpoint. You must refer to Hinduism in your answer</p> <p>Candidates may respond with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stories have a natural interest and rhythm which lets the message come through without much preaching; • Stories are more memorable and more easily understood than philosophical arguments; • Stories may be written in poetic form and therefore be easy to recollect especially in a culture where literacy is not common; • Stories such as the Ramayana, are open to several interpretations which means that the guidance for the believer may be ambivalent and unclear; • Stories are a very slow and cumbersome way of expressing ideas. Rational argument is better; • The point or moral of a story may not always be clear and may be lost in the general interest in the tale; • Beliefs which are conveyed in stories which are quite trivial or mythological may themselves be considered trivial or irrelevant in 21st Century culture. 	[12]
	Question Total	[24]
	Paper Total	[48]

Assessment Objectives Grid (includes QWC)

Question	AO1	AO2	Total
1(a)	6		6
1(b)	6		6
1(c)		12	12
2(a)	6		6
2(b)	6		6
2(c)		12	12
3(a)	6		6
3(b)	6		6
3(c)		12	12
Totals	12	12	24

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